Please amend claims 1 and 2 as follows:

1.   (Currently amended)   An ultrasonic diagnostic apparatus for delay-controlling ~~the~~ ultrasonic wave beams of a plurality of ultrasonic transducer elements linearly arranged in a ~~horizontal~~ transversal direction to a specimen, characterized by:

means for deriving the distance "y" from each of said plurality of ultrasonic transducer elements to ~~said~~ convergence positions by way of ~~with from~~ a hyperbolic function using the following formula:

$$(y + b)^2 = (ax)^2 + b^2$$

wherein "a" is the gradient ~~"a"~~ of an asymptote of a hyperbola and 0 < | a | < 1, ~~with~~ "x" is a variable corresponding to each of the positions in ~~a horizontal~~ said transversal direction of said plurality of ultrasonic transducer elements, and "b" is the curvature in the vicinity of the origin in the hyperbola ~~as the variable~~; and

means for generating ~~the~~ driving pulse of each of said plurality of ultrasonic transducer elements delayed respectively in accordance ~~to~~ with said derived distances.

2.   (Currently amended) An ultrasonic diagnostic apparatus for delay-controlling ~~the~~ ultrasonic wave beams of a plurality of ultrasonic transducer elements arranged on a convex surface in a ~~horizontal~~ transversal direction to a specimen, characterized by:

means for deriving the distance from each of said plurality of ultrasonic transducer elements to ~~said~~ convergence positions by way of ~~from~~ the sum of a distance "y" obtained from a hyperbolic function using the following formula:

$$(y + b)^2 = (ax)^2 + b^2$$

wherein "a" is the gradient ~~"a"~~ of an asymptote ~~is~~ of a hyperbola and 0 < | a | < 1, ~~with~~ "x" is a variable corresponding to each of the positions in ~~a horizontal~~ said transversal direction of said plurality of ultrasonic transducer elements, and "b" is the curvature in the vicinity of the origin in the hyperbola ~~as the variable~~ and the distance from each of said ultrasonic

transducer elements ~~and~~ <u>to</u> a reference line to which the ultrasonic transducer element in the center ~~contacts on~~ <u>comes into contact with</u> the convex surface; and

means for generating the driving pulse of each of the said plurality of ultrasonic transducer elements delayed <u>respectively</u> in accordance ~~to~~ <u>with</u> said derived distances.